

10/577117

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.  
PCT/SG 2004/000362

**Continuation No. I**

**Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed.

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**Continuation No. V**

**Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

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|-------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Novelty (N)                   | Claims 1-7  | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Claims 1-7  | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims 1-7  | YES |
|                               | Claims ---- | NO  |

**2. Citations and explanations:**

Following documents have been cited in the Search Report:

D1: DE 20307522 U1

D2: EP 1026421 A2

D3: DE 20107426 U1

Claims 1 and 4:

D1 is a document published prior to the filing date but later than the priority date claimed.

D1 shows a damping device for moveable parts of furniture. A closed cylinder (12) filled with gas or fluid, containing a valve mechanism attached to a piston rod (24) and a portion (26) of which the piston rod emerges through an opening in the end wall of the cylinder. There is also shown a spring (38) wound around the axle (34) of the piston (14).

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D1 does not disclose a disc having multiple passages, a rotatable annular cover piece and a turning piece.

Claim 6:

D2 shows a gas spring wherein the piston is a hollow tube to receive the piston rod.

Claim 7:

D3 shows a braking device wherein the air damper or the fluidic damper comprises a spring (22) which connects the closed end of the cylinder with the valve mechanism.

Industrial applicability is given for all claims.

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